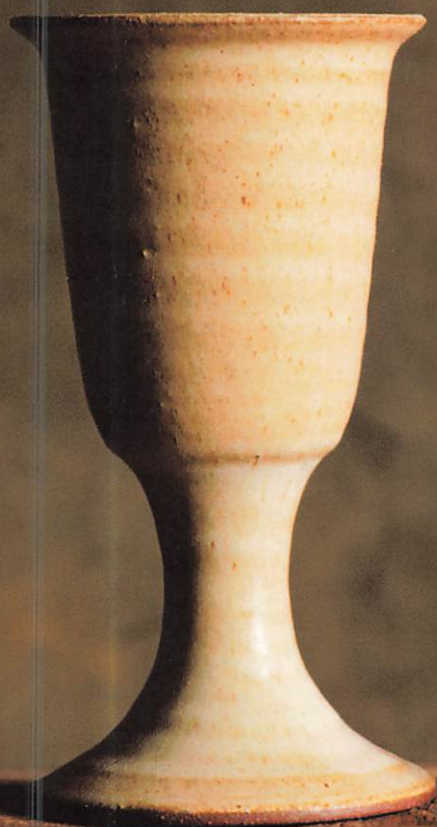


Jenelle Dove

*Reflections on Jesus'*  
JOURNEY



*Reflections  
on Jesus' Journey*

In Haiku Form

JENELLE DOVE

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Dedicated to Rochelle Lynn Dove, July 2, 1960 to  
October 26, 1984. The poem, "The Daughter," was writ-  
ten in loving memory of her life and her death.

The open letter to the Followers of the Way, the forty-seven haikus, entitled Reflections on Jesus's Journey, are divided into four life phases: (1) the coming, (2) the preparing, (3) the vocation preaching, teaching, and healing, 4) the dying. In each haiku I introduce the story (the objective), describe the situation (the reflective), and finally connect it with my life experience (the interpretive). Haiku involves a three-line verse using five syllables for the first line, seven syllables for the second line, and five syllables for the third line.

If you are unfamiliar with the scriptural passage, use the Bible reference for the complete narrative. The scriptures are quoted from the Revised Standard Version 1959 Edition.

My initial reason for writing the poems was to clarify for me where I am theologically. It is an accumulation of my learnings from my parents, my Sunday school teachers, my ministerial husband, and the gurus of The Ecumenical Institute.

In re-reading these reflections I find many of them ending with a question. I don't know the answers, but the questions address me.

It doesn't matter if these scriptural stories are factual, legend or myth. The essence of each causes me to extract the meaning in my own life.

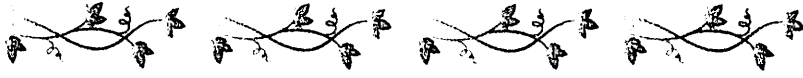
These poems have caused me to dig deeper into the realities of my life. I know this depth analysis is important for my own spiritual journey.

If I have learned anything in these many years, it is to recognize and embrace the fact that each of us is on his/her own spiritual path, and I must honor where each one is on that road.

Come, travel with me or, better yet, create your own spiritual roadmap.

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# *The Coming*

The Announcement  
The Census  
The Birth  
The Shepherds  
The Kings



## *The Announcement*

“Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel (which means God with us)” (Matthew 1:23).

What is the meaning  
Of this announcement proclaimed  
In a darkened world?

It comes as a gift.  
“God is with us” in babe’s form,  
This wonder of hope.

Some come as Joseph  
Not believing the message  
Questioning the gift.

Some come as Mary  
Saying “yes” to all of life  
Accepting her role.

Each one must decide  
Every day anew—the gift,  
The wonder in us.





## *The Census*

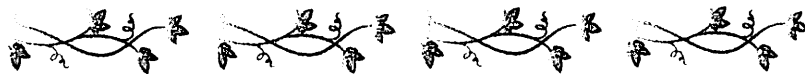
“And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city” (Luke 2:1–5).

Augustus decreed  
A census throughout the land  
Each to be counted.

The pair traveled far  
To the place of Joseph’s birth  
A long, hard journey.

I need to go back  
To recall my beginnings.  
The saints do call me.

What will I find there?  
A renewed understanding  
Of my life’s purpose.



## *The Birth*

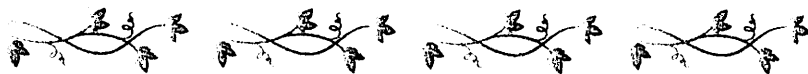
“And she gave birth to her firstborn son” (Luke 2:6–7).

I needed the best,  
The quickest, the easiest.  
Simply, Jesus came.

I needed experts,  
Antiseptic space, sterile gowns.  
Mary swaddled him.

I needed the crib,  
Sheets white, bottles clean, milk pure.  
A manger for him.

Lord, I needed to trust.  
How did I lose the message?  
You showed me the way.



## *The Shepherds*

“And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night” (Luke 2:8–20).

First to see the star,  
The shepherds came from the hills  
To visit Jesus.

“What gift shall we bring?”  
“We have nothing to offer  
The Christ child so fair.”

“Now, just go and see!”  
“After many tomorrows,  
Your heart is the gift.”



## *The Kings*

“When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy; and going into the house they saw the child with Mary, his mother, and they fell down and worshipped him” (Matthew 2:1–11).

The wise men journeyed  
Following the brilliant star  
To where the child lay.

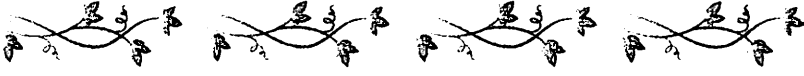
They brought rich bounty,  
Gold and frankincense and myrrh  
Strange spoils for a babe.

The good news for me  
Whether shepherds or wise men,  
Jesus receives all.



# *The Preparing*

The Flight  
The Temple  
The Baptism  
The Wilderness  
The Synagogue  
The Disciples



## *The Flight*

“Now when they had departed, behold an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, ‘Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt and remain there till I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child to destroy him’” (Matthew 2:1–15).

“Flee,” said the angel,  
“Herod wants to destroy him.  
Egypt is the place.”

Why did the infant  
Become such an earthly threat  
For the regal king?

To learn the answer  
Is to grasp the worldliness  
That devours us.



## *The Temple*

“After three days, they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers” (Luke 2:41–52).

Rabbi and student  
Amazing one another  
In rare communion.

Sitting, listening,  
Asking depth questions of life  
Steps toward his calling.

Wisdom beyond years  
Can be found within a child  
If we but listen.



## *The Baptism*

“Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to  
John, to be baptized by him” (Matthew 3:13).

Into the river  
Creating his own drama  
Jesus walked alone.

Up from the water  
The act sealed the decision  
To become God’s own.

What is commitment?  
How do we symbolize it?  
What can sustain it?

Should we renew old forms  
Or learn to create anew  
That which brings meaning?





## *The Wilderness*

“And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan, and was led by the Spirit for forty days in the wilderness, tempted by the devil” (Luke 4:1–11).

Change stones into bread  
Was temptation number one!  
Hunger is so real.

Rule over kingdoms  
Was temptation number two!  
Power seems required.

Jump from the temple  
Was temptation number three!  
What will be noticed?

What brings fulfillment?  
To recognize seductions  
When they pursue me.

What wisdom was shown  
Out there in the wilderness  
Forty days alone!



## *The Synagogue*

“And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and he went to the synagogue, as his custom was on the Sabbath day and he stood up to read and there was given to him the book of the prophet Isaiah” (Luke 4:14–30).

Having been tempted,  
He returned to Nazareth  
The place of his youth.

In the synagogue  
He read from the ancient scroll:  
“God anointed me.”

“Now these words are true.”  
“Blasphemy,” said the angry crowd.  
“Is he not our own?”

It is not easy  
To speak with authority.  
Few perceive greatness.

Greatness requires risk,  
Exposing oneself to pain  
In forging the new.



## *The Disciples*

“As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, ‘Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.’ Immediately they left their nets and followed him” (Matthew 4:18–22).

Walking the shoreline  
By the Sea of Galilee,  
He shouted to them.

“Come and follow me,  
You will be fishers of men!”  
They came one by one.

It sounds illusory,  
Naive, unreal, simplistic.  
Who comprehends it?

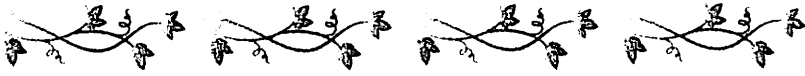
But sometimes it’s wise  
To accept without knowing  
All consequences.

Some pronounce that Hell,  
Some declare it lunacy,  
Others call it faith.



# *The Preaching*

The Conversation  
The Walk  
The Test  
The Children  
The Charge  
The Need  
The Meal  
The Prayer  
The Relations  
The Visit



## *The Conversation*

“He entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus: he was a chief tax collector and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was to pass that way” (Luke: 19:1–10).

Sitting in a tree  
Waiting for Jesus to pass  
“Shorty,” they called him.

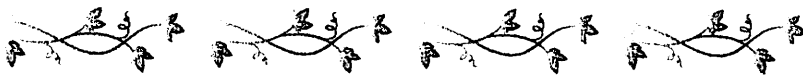
Jesus saw him there.  
“Do come down and dine with me.”  
Zacchaeus followed.

In one short evening  
A man’s life was turned around  
What words were spoken?

We come together  
And talk of weather and sports  
Children and housework.

A pleasant evening,  
Dinner and conversation  
But no lives are changed.

Can we recover  
Contemplative interchange  
So others might live?



## *The Walk*

“And Peter answered him, ‘Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water.’ He said, ‘Come.’ So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus, but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, ‘Lord, save me’” (Matthew 14:22-23)

Jesus said to him,  
“Come, Peter, you can do it.  
Walk on the water.”

Water is a sign  
A symbol for life itself.  
How do they compare?

Life, like water is  
Cool, refreshing, and tranquil.  
A blessing to us.

Or it can occur  
As a deluge, a downpour  
Of dark, troubled times.

When I focus on  
The dark clouds and fearsome waves  
I, too, call for help.

But when I focus  
On life’s affirmations  
I walk on water.



## *The Test*

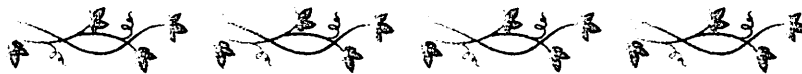
“And Jesus looking upon him, loved him, and said to him, ‘You lack one thing; go sell what you have, and give to the poor, and you will have treasures in heaven, and come follow me.’ At that saying his countenance fell and he went away sorrowful; for he had great possessions” (Mark 10:17–25).

The rich young ruler  
Knelt before Jesus to ask  
For unending life.

Knowing the problem  
Of the man’s encumbrances,  
He said, “Give away.”

“Free yourself of it.  
In order to follow me  
New treasures are found.”

I, too, am shackled  
By accumulated goods.  
I am the rich man!



## *The Children*

“Let the children come to me, do not hinder them;  
for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly I say  
to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God  
like a child shall not enter it” (Mark 10:13–16).

Return to childhood  
Discover the attributes  
Fit for the kingdom.

A lively, trusting  
Dimension of innocence  
Wide-eyed with wonder.

Challenged they are  
Curious, enthused, joy-filled  
Adaptable ones.

What happens to us  
Amid a cynical world  
When youth disappears?





## *The Charge*

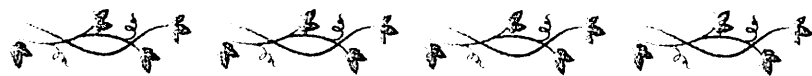
But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great” (Luke 6:32–38).

Love, care, lend, do good;  
Only with our closest friends  
As they will for us.

How’s it possible  
For persons, groups, or nations  
To do with no yield?

I thrive on return,  
Wanting some instant pay-off  
From my investment.

The promised reward  
Demands trust and sacrifice  
Calling forth great risk.



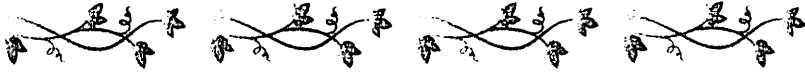
## *The Need*

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty  
and you gave me drink” (Matthew 25:31–40).

We name it missions  
Those near to us or afar  
Needing our succor.

The claim is constant.  
The number overpowering  
Now and evermore.

The voice of God calls.  
The task is clearly stated.  
Responding brings life.



## *The Meal*

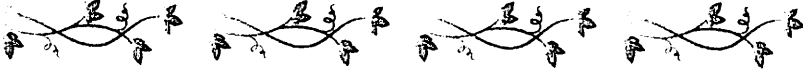
“Jesus said, ‘They need not go away, you give them something to eat.’ They said to him, ‘We have only five loaves here and two fish’” (Matthew 15:29–39).

How is it explained  
That the crowd was satisfied  
With so little food?

What words were spoken?  
Did the throng share what they had?  
Was more food produced?

Is it possible  
To “feed” on another word  
And find yourself “filled?”

Such experiences  
Enrich and enlighten me  
Then my plate is full.



## *The Prayer*

“Pray then like this: Our Father who art in heaven, hal-  
lowed be thy name” (Matthew 6:5–15).

Directions for prayer  
Christ gives to his disciples  
Are basic and few.

Prayer is not for show,  
It is a personal deed.  
Practice it alone.

God knows what you need.  
No flowery phrases used.  
Words can be simple.

Give honor to Him  
And His Kingdom on this earth  
Conceding His will.

Food, forgiveness, and  
Resisting all temptations  
Are my only needs.

Lord, help me to know  
The crucial difference between  
Wanting and needing!



## *The Relations*

“And he was told, ‘Your mother and your brother are standing outside desiring to see you.’ But he said to them, ‘My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it’” (Luke 8:19–21).

In our mobile age,  
To whom am I the closest  
Family or colleagues?

Although blood kinship  
Fosters love and loyalty  
Corporateness is lost.

Colleagues together,  
Performing important tasks  
Create stronger bonds.

Jesus said to them,  
“Those who do my Father’s will  
They are my family.”



## *The Visit*

“Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her to help me” (Luke 10:38–42).

Jesus visited  
In the home of two sisters,  
Mary and Martha.

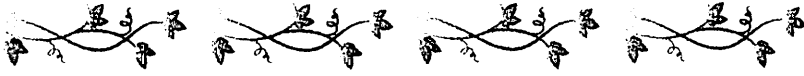
Martha set about  
Caring for his physical needs.  
Mary sat in awe.

Now, what would I do?  
Find security in food  
Or risk at his feet?



# *The Teaching*

The Vineyard  
The Return  
The Deed  
The Light  
The Banquet  
The Seed  
The Comparison  
The Gift



## *The Vineyard*

“He had still one other, a beloved son; finally he sent him to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son!’ But those tenants said to one another, ‘This is the heir, come let us kill him and the inheritance will be ours’” (Mark 12:1–12).

Jesus told stories  
About common happenings  
To disclose new truths.

These were parables  
It was his teaching method  
For understanding.

In this story God  
Reigns as the owner of the world.  
We are His tenants.

Throughout history,  
He sent the world  
His prophets  
Whom we chose to kill.

Then Jesus was sent.  
Surely, we will accept him.  
The outcome was vile.

God is still waiting  
For the fruits from his vineyard  
The world still resists.





## *The Return*

“It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found” (Luke 15:12–32).

The son wanted life  
To be carefree and easy.  
It was not to be.

When he turned around  
Choosing a new direction,  
Repentance was clear.

For others rejoiced  
Welcoming his homecoming  
With great compassion.

But he decided  
Between lostness and foundness  
The option was his.

Look back over life,  
Have I lost my direction?  
His story is mine.



## *The Deed*

“And who is my neighbor?’ Jesus replied, ‘A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers’” (Luke 10:25–37).

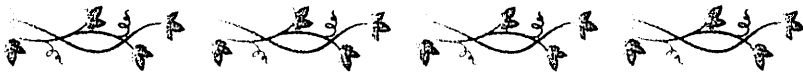
Good Samaritan  
The phrase is used even now,  
As one who gives aid.

Most stop for car wrecks,  
Children who are in trouble,  
And the elderly.

None is dangerous  
To us individuals.  
No bodily harm!

Then come prostitutes,  
Druggies, street gangs, and derelicts.  
Surely, not them too?

I know the answer.  
They are the most abandoned  
Neighbors of them all.



## *The Light*

“Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house” (Matthew 5:14–16).

Each of us is light.  
Type and potential differ  
As does length of use.

The option is ours  
Where our light will brightly shine.  
Choose a needful spot.



## *The Banquet*

“But he said to him, ‘A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many’” (Luke 14:16–24).

Life is a banquet  
Which God has offered to us.  
We excuse ourselves.

He then calls others,  
Leaving us in the mundane  
Absent from His board.

How often have we  
Missed great opportunities  
Burdened by duty?



## *The Seed*

“For truly I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, move hence to yonder place, and it will move and nothing will be impossible to you” (Matthew 17:14–21).

Belief in myself  
Gives me strength and assurance  
To attempt great tasks.

Belief in my Lord  
Moves me in creativeness  
Beyond self, to all.

When my beliefs wane  
Even the smallest chores  
Become a burden.

But if I hold fast  
To these truths about life  
All is possible.



## *The Sheep*

“And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me for I have found my sheep which were lost’” (Luke 15:6).

Jesus placed great worth  
On finding the one lost sheep  
Returning him home.

I know this story.  
These are the questions I ask  
To make the plot mine.

Who needs attention?  
Does each person have value?  
Who demands my care?

Jesus knew his sheep.  
I find myself not knowing  
The lambs in the fold.



## *The Comparison*

“Two men went up into the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee  
and the other a tax collector” (Luke 18:9–14).

Sitting here alone  
Gazing upon the altar  
I, too, come to pray.

During this vigil  
I reflect on the year of  
Lost humility.

It is too painful  
Examining my motives  
For accomplishments.

Did I count numbers  
Or bring about change  
In this, your chapel?

Thank you, gracious Lord.  
For the two men in the Temple  
And new beginnings.



## *The Gift*

“For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she, out of her poverty put in all the living that she had” (Luke 21:1–4).

My thoughts do wander  
Beyond the gift of two coins,  
Stopped by the word “all.”

Gandhi, Schweitzer, King,  
Kagawa, and Teresa  
They understood it.

To hold nothing back  
Models of expenditure  
So others might live.

Each age and station  
Declares this scriptural truth  
Through its witnesses.





## *The House*

“The winds blew and beat upon the house but it did not fall,  
because it had been founded on a rock” (Matthew 7:24–29).

The foolish focus  
On simplifying the Word  
They make it abstract.

Action is excused.  
Surely it's not expected.  
Words without deeds die.

Listen to the Word  
Find the universal truth  
That spans the ages.

Once this is achieved  
The deed is discerned, performed  
Then no storm can shake.



## *The Sower*

“A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed,  
some seeds fell along the path”  
(Matthew 13:1–9).

I begin early  
Scouring the catalogs  
Planting under lights.

Then tilling the soil,  
Fertilizing and dusting,  
Weeding constantly.

When will the sun shine?  
Does it have enough water?  
How time consuming.

But at season's end,  
The harvest is rewarding  
Filling the larders.

My life needs tending  
Like the seeds in my garden.  
Jesus tells me so!



# *The Healing*

The Paralyzed  
The Deranged  
The Daughter  
The Sick  
The Believer



## *The Paralyzed*

“When Jesus saw him and knew that he had been lying there a long time, he said to him, ‘Do you want to be healed?’” (John 5:2–9).

For thirty-eight years  
Steeped in his own self-pity  
He lived by the pool.

Lame by “if-only,”  
I, too, find it difficult  
To move with intent.

Do I want wellness?  
Then I must pick up the pain  
Of the past and live.



## *The Deranged*

“And when he came to the other side, to the country of the Gerasenes, two demonics met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one could pass that way” (Matthew 8:28–34).

The man at the tombs  
So deranged others passed by  
Fearing for their lives.

Yet he recognized  
Jesus as the Son of God  
And made his request.

His demons left him,  
Filling the lives of the swine  
Bent on destruction.

Why did the neighbors  
Not rejoice in his wholeness?  
Instead were angered!

Were the pigs worth more?  
Woe to a society  
Blind to suffering!



## *The Daughter*

“And there came a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue; and falling at Jesus’s feet he besought him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying” (Luke 8:41–42, 49–56).

I don’t understand.  
We served, we prayed, we believed,  
Yet our daughter died.

What is the meaning?  
What does Jesus save us from?  
Not physical death.

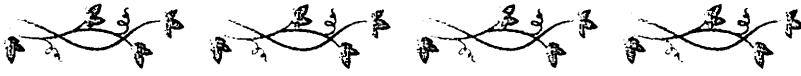
To follow God’s plan,  
We know our lives end in death  
Whenever it comes.

Jesus saves us from  
Refusing to live our lives;  
To die before death.

Our daughter lived life  
With exuberance and joy,  
Regretting nothing.

She also taught us  
How to live through her dying  
Jesus did save her.

We were left behind,  
Crazed by our separation  
But we, too, were healed.



## *The Sick*

“But finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus” (Luke 5:18–26).

Such friendship is rare;  
They saw the situation  
Determined to win.

Acting out their love,  
They tore away one’s tiled roof  
So Jesus might heal.

Lord, teach me to be  
Decisive, caring, and bold  
With comrades in pain.



## *The Believer*

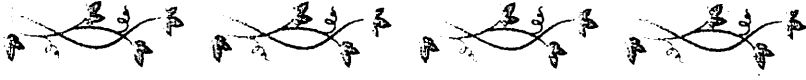
“Now a centurion had a slave who was dear to him, who was sick and at the point of death. When he heard of Jesus, he sent to him elders of the Jews, asking him to come and heal his slave” (Luke 7:1–10).

Jesus, soldier, slave  
What a strange coalition  
Entwined by illness.

The slave was near death  
The soldier foresaw power.  
Jesus perceived faith.

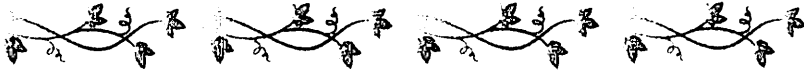
His power, one's faith  
Ingredients for healing  
Possible for all!





# *The Dying*

The Parade  
The Cheaters  
The Supper  
The Denial  
The Garden  
The Betrayal  
The Trial  
The Crucifixion  
The Resurrection  
The Reunion



## *The Parade*

“And as he rode along they spread their garments on the road. As he was drawing near, at the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen” (Luke 19:28–40).

Jesus looked steadfast  
Toward mighty Jerusalem,  
Seat of law and creed.

It was time to stand  
Among the most powerful  
Declaring God’s truth.

His followers came.  
Who does not love a parade  
Loud and exciting.

The day was hope-filled  
But parades come to an end,  
Reality reigns.

Life comes to us all  
As parades/crucifixions  
Our Jerusalem’s.



## *The Cheaters*

“And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold, saying to them, ‘It is written, my house shall be a house of prayer; but you have made it a den of robbers’” (Luke 19:45–46).

Jesus drove them out  
Those who cheated the needy.  
His anger was real.

Defending the poor,  
Respecting the House of God  
Were his chief concerns.

Our churches are shrines  
But who guard the down-trodden?  
Did we half-listen?



## *The Supper*

“And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said,  
“Take this and divide it among yourselves, And he took  
bread and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave  
it to them saying, ‘This is my body’” (Luke 22:14–22).

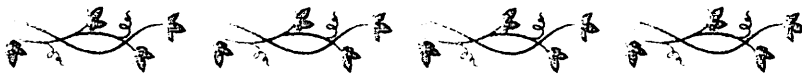
The last night with friends.  
How to celebrate closure  
Of time together?

Sustenance for life  
He took up the bread and wine  
Common at each meal.

The bread comes broken  
As our lives are found broken,  
Take and be nourished.

The wine is poured out  
As our lives are for others,  
Take and be sustained.

Broken and spilled out  
Each time I partake of it  
I will remember.



## *The Denial*

“And he said to him, ‘Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death.’ He said, ‘I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day until you three times deny that you know me’” (Luke 22:33–34).

Peter was so sure  
Sure of his own faithfulness  
To his condemned Lord.

But Jesus knew him  
Rock-like and soft, strong and weak.  
Denial would come.

To the risen Christ  
I, too, avow loyalty,  
Pledging devotion.

But Christ knows me, too,  
Seeking my own self-interest  
Ignoring his task.

Christ accepts my gifts,  
As he accepted Peter’s,  
Using my weakness.



## *The Garden*

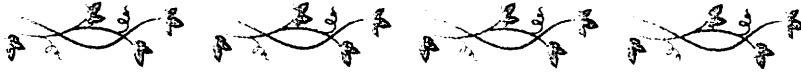
“And he withdrew from them about a stone’s throw, and knelt down and prayed, ‘Father, if thou are willing to remove this cup from me, nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done’” (Luke 22:39–46).

Jesus came to pray  
To his God in the garden.  
His disciples slept.

With time closing in  
His humanity was real.  
“Please let this cup pass.”

“But thy will be done.”  
So free, yet obedient  
Fixing his own course.

A contradiction?  
Each one can decide freely  
To blend “wants” with “needs.”



## *The Betrayal*

“While he was still speaking, there came a crowd and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him; but Jesus said to him, ‘Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?’” (Luke 22:47–53).

Judas led the crowd  
Planting the deceptive kiss  
Covered by darkness.

Betray, deceive, trick  
Common in our relations  
One with another.

For money/power  
No more a nocturnal kiss  
We find other ways.

Forget the story?  
His story becomes our own  
Set in modern times.



## *The Trial*

“Then the whole company of them arose and brought him before Pilate. And they began to accuse him, saying ‘We found this man perverting our nation and forbidding us to give tribute to Caesar, and saying that he himself is Christ a king.’ And Pilate asked him, ‘Are you the King of the Jews?’ And he answered him, “you have said so” (Luke 23:1–25).

After the arrest,  
Jesus came before Pilate.  
The charges were told.

Pilate was the judge,  
The gathered crowd, the jury.  
Could justice be done?

If given the chance  
Could I give a death verdict?  
I want to say no.





## *The Crucifixion*

“And when they came to the place called the Skull,  
there they crucified him and the criminals, one on the  
right and the other on the left” (Luke 23:32–49).

Death upon a cross,  
Executed by Romans,  
Contrived by the crowd.

Who can imagine  
The pain and the suffering  
By God’s only son?

Supreme sacrifice!  
If today, where would I be?  
Please, do not test me!



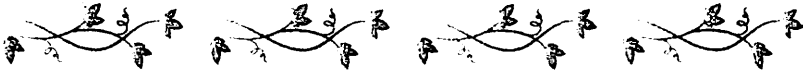
## *The Resurrection*

“But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking spices which they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb but when they went in they did not find the body” (Luke 24:1–3).

They went to the tomb  
Defeated and in despair.  
Their hero was dead.

They came to anoint  
The body and show respect,  
But he was not there.

We come full circle  
Like Mary, we accept it.  
New life from the tomb.



## *The Reunion*

“When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:1–4).

They came together  
Honoring their Jewishness  
Recalling past cares.

“What are we to do?”  
When the Holy Spirit came  
Their resolve was clear.

That same spirit is  
Available to me now.  
I listen each day.

## *About the Author*

Jenelle Dove and her husband Mark have served as a ministerial couple in many United Methodist Churches in Southern Ohio. As an education major, she has led many laboratory schools and workshops with emphasis on the training of church school teachers.

Jenelle has always been fascinated with the haiku form of poetry. It is her hope that every reader will experiment with this manner of expression.

Even though His life was cut short, Jesus had a beginning, a vocation, and an ending. Using the haiku form, 5-7-5 syllables, the author wanted to express exactly how that life interacts with her own.



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